



ELTHORNE PARK

— HIGH SCHOOL —

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN A LEARNING COMMUNITY

Sixth Form Curriculum Booklet

2022/2023



BTEC Business

Exam board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

Students on the course will study a variety of different topics and units. These will cover areas such as marketing and advertising, finance, human resources and web site design. The aim is to give each student an understanding of the different functional areas of all businesses. This will then allow students to progress into university or employment with the ability to specialise in a preferred area.

Business is a subject that is constantly on the move. Each day, new ideas and organisations spring up and change the way we act and the way we think. The ability to understand the business world around you won't just help you progress in business but will make you a more astute individual that is ready for new challenges.

Course Content and Assessment

During the two years, you will study the following core units:

- Business environment
- Business purposes
- Introduction to marketing and business communication

In addition to the above, you will study further units that are chosen specifically to match the skills of the group and the current business environment.

30% of the course will be externally assessed, through four examinations. There are nine coursework based units that entail real-life, work-based case studies and projects. The assessment process is ongoing, so it allows you to analyse and improve your own performance through your course in much the same way as you would in a real workplace. The projects, exams and controlled assessments that you undertake form the basis of your unit results which are graded as a pass, merit or distinction.

Career possibilities

The career possibilities for a Business student are unrestricted. Any organisation that involves people, technology and enterprise will need people with an overview of how departments interact with each other and how strategy can be built and implemented to support the achievement of aims. It is not unusual for business students to be fast tracked to management positions in organisation because of their ability to understand the wider picture.

Course Leader: Mr Y Bhatti

BTEC Health and Social Care

Exam board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care is an in-depth study of health and social care and supports progression to higher education or apprenticeships within the sector. The course covers aspects of knowledge, understanding and competency necessary for employment within the sector. Health and Social Care professionals work in direct care, such as nurses, social workers as well as specialists such as health scientists, technicians, supervisors and managers. This qualification is one of the leading qualifications for entry into these careers. The subject gives the skills to succeed and the confidence to progress in the Health and Social Care sector.

Course Content and Assessment – all students will study the following units:

- Human lifespan development (examination)
- Working in Health and Social Care (examination)
- Enquiries into current research in Health and Social Care (controlled assessment)
- Anatomy and physiology for Health and Social Care (examination)
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Work Experience in Health and Social Care
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Promoting Public Health

In addition, the following coursework-based units will be studied:

- Psychological perspectives
- Physiological disorders and their care
- Assessing children's development support needs
- Nutritional health
- Understanding mental wellbeing

40% of the course will be externally assessed, through three examinations and one extended controlled assessment task, which is set and marked externally. There are nine coursework based units that entail real-life, work-based case studies and projects. The assessment process is ongoing, so it allows you to analyse and improve your own performance through your course in much the same way as you would in a real workplace. The projects, exams and controlled assessments that you undertake form the basis of your unit results which are graded as a pass, merit or distinction. Students will attend a work experience placement one day per week to further enhance their knowledge and skills.

Career possibilities

The Health and Social Care sector encompasses staff involved in direct care, such as nurses, health care workers, elderly carers and social workers as well as specialists such as health scientists, technicians, support staff, supervisors and managers. There are employment opportunities in the public, private and voluntary provision of care services.

Course Leader: Ms S Webster

BTEC Sport

Exam board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

The course provides preparation for employment in the Sports and Leisure career sectors through a combination of classroom work and practical application and investigation. It is based on the interaction between practical, theory and vocational aspects with a focus on sports development, coaching and fitness. The course also offers students the opportunity to gain other qualifications such as first aid, community sports leadership award and national governing body awards in various sports.

Course Content and Assessment

Core Units	Specialist Units
Principles of anatomy and physiology in sport	Talent identification and development in sport
The physiology of fitness	Psychology of sport performance
Assessing risk in sport	Sports injuries
Fitness training and programming	Sports nutrition
Sports coaching	Exercise, health and lifestyle
Sports development	Instructing physical activity and exercise
Fitness testing for sport and exercise	PE & the care of children and young people
Practical individual sports	Analysis for sports performance
Practical team sports	Current issues in sport

There are two online exams. The course will be assessed through a continuous programme of assignments, class activities, practical tasks, discussions, presentations, written reports, work experience, organising events and coaching. Each assignment has grading criteria which is used to determine the evidence that each learner must produce in order to receive a pass, merit or distinction grade. It is important to note that the merit and distinction grading criteria require a qualitative improvement in a learner's evidence and not simply the production of more evidence at the same level.

Career possibilities

The course will enable you to follow a range of courses at university such as sport and leisure management, physiotherapy, sport and exercise science, teacher training, sports coaching and development, biology/science courses. The course also provides you with the qualities and knowledge required for employment in the public or private sectors of the sport, leisure and recreation industry.

Course Leader: Ms L Patterson

A Level Art: Fine Art

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

The course gives students a thorough understanding of processes in art and design, particularly in the areas of drawing, painting and developing independent ideas. Students are also encouraged to explore historical and contextual aspects of art and design.

This is a Fine Art course, although it gives you the opportunity to work in a wide variety of media. During the course, you will produce independent projects, these will be presented in both visual and written form and will be based on your own personal themes. These themes could be historical, philosophical, technical or psychological.

Course Content and Assessment

Unit 1 Course Portfolio	You produce a portfolio of work for this unit. Investigations using a variety of media and scale lead to a personal, well researched final outcome.	30% of A Level
Unit 2 Controlled Assignment	A final piece of work is produced independently under controlled conditions. You have several weeks to experiment, record and research as well as consult with your teacher as you develop your ideas.	20% of A Level
Unit 3 Course Portfolio	You are required to use personal starting points to produce a major project that shows you working through a range of art and design experiences. You will include a personal study, related to your coursework theme, of between 1000 and 3000 words.	30% of A Level
Unit 4 Controlled Assignment	You will choose a starting point and during the initial planning and preparation stage you will demonstrate recording, planning and developing ideas and completing a final response under controlled conditions in 15 hours.	20% of A Level

Career possibilities

A Level Art is an ideal preparation for studying the subject at degree level or for direct entry into a variety of pathways in teaching and research, advertising, self-employment as a professional and commercial artist and many other art and design industries.

Course Leader: Ms A Dawson

A Level Art: Graphics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

Graphic design is the communication of information and ideas by visual means. The course involves the study of a range of traditional graphic design themes, such as advertising, illustration, packaging and typography. Work will be developed in sketchbooks and on a larger scale and this will involve experimentation with a variety of materials, tools and techniques. The technical aspect of the course will involve the realisation of your work in two-dimensional form through the manipulation of images and words. The study of graphic artists and their work at first hand, will play an important role in the development of your work.

Course Content and Assessment

Unit 1 Course Portfolio	You produce a portfolio of work for this unit. Investigations using a variety of media and scale lead to a personal, well researched final outcome.	30% of A Level
Unit 2 Controlled Assignment	A final piece of work is produced independently under controlled conditions. You have several weeks to experiment, record and research as well as consult with your teacher as you develop your ideas.	20% of A Level
Unit 3 Course Portfolio	You are required to use personal starting points to produce a major project that shows you working through a range of art and design experiences. You will include a personal study, related to your coursework theme, of between 1000 and 3000 words.	30% of A Level
Unit 4 Controlled Assignment	You will choose a starting point and during the initial planning and preparation stage you will demonstrate recording, planning and developing ideas and completing a final response under controlled conditions in 15 hours.	20% of A Level

Career possibilities

A Level Graphics Communication is an ideal preparation for studying the subject at degree level or for direct entry into a variety of pathways in teaching and research, advertising, self-employment as a professional and commercial artist and many other art & design industries.

Course Leader: Ms A Dawson

A Level Art: Photography

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

Students on this exciting course will build a portfolio of still and moving images exploring a wide range of materials, processes and techniques including film processing and digital photography, experimenting with a wide range of photographic materials and processes. Students will be taught how to research and analyse the work of relevant artists and photographers and complete studio and location based photoshoots related to a set theme. Students will have to complete independent photoshoots related to the theme and present their work in the annual exhibition.

Course Content and Assessment

Unit 1 Course Portfolio	You produce a portfolio of work for this unit. Investigations using a variety of media and scale lead to a personal, well researched final outcome.	30% of A Level
Unit 2 Controlled Assignment	A final piece of work is produced independently under controlled conditions. You have several weeks to experiment, record and research as well as consult with your teacher as you develop your ideas.	20% of A Level
Unit 3 Course Portfolio	You are required to use personal starting points to produce a major project that shows you working through a range of art and design experiences. You will include a personal study, related to your coursework theme, of between 1000 and 3000 words.	30% of A Level
Unit 4 Controlled Assignment	You will choose a starting point and during the initial planning and preparation stage you will demonstrate recording, planning and developing ideas and completing a final response under controlled conditions in 15 hours.	20% of A Level

Career possibilities

Photojournalism, curation, TV and film industries, fashion photography, website design, food photographers, travel photography.

Course Leader: Ms A Dawson

A Level – Biology

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

This multi-disciplinary course not only provides an opportunity for students to improve their basic understanding of biological key concepts, methods and techniques that characterise science and technology, it also enables students to apply their knowledge and skills in explaining both familiar and unfamiliar observations made regarding life forms.

Course Content and Assessment

Students should study it if they wish to study biology further in higher education, if they wish to foster their interest and enthusiasm for biology and/or if they wish to qualify for careers in biology.

Two Papers Paper 1 and Paper 2	All questions must be answered and questions will include both maths and practical skills (externally marked)	Each paper is 33.3% of the A Level
Paper 3	All questions must be answered and questions will include both maths and practical skills as well as questions on a pre-released article (externally marked)	33.3% of the A Level
Practical Assessment	18 core practicals and knowledge of these will be tested within exam papers	Practical portfolio must be maintained and will form part of the practical competency assessment

Career possibilities

Biology is a prerequisite for several courses, such as medicine, biomedical engineering, biomedical science, biochemistry, pharmacology, sports science and environmental sciences. The course will prepare students to have an advantage in securing a place in university in an area of their interest and seeking employment in future.

Course Leader: Dr A Vigneswaran

A Level – Chemistry

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

The course looks at atoms (the basic building blocks), how and why they combine, and how the resulting compounds behave in the real world. The whole subject is based upon the results of experiments and so involves the learning of many practical techniques.

Chemistry is the study of what things are made of and how they interact within their environment. Chemistry is often referred to as “the central science” as it overlaps with physics, biology and geology to name but a few. Look around you! Everything is made of chemicals and so chemists have roles in all sorts of fields beyond the obvious: chemical industry or in chemical education. The skills we learn are invaluable in a huge range of careers from accounting to rocket science!

Course Content and Assessment

- Three written exams at the end of the two-year course.
- 12 core skills assessed through 16 practicals over the two years
- Teachers will set one internal exam per topic and experimental write ups are also assessed to develop essential skills. Exams will also assess practical skills and understanding.

Assessment of practical skills and the practical endorsement in chemistry

Development of practical skills in chemistry will be assessed through written examinations and through practical endorsement (where learners are required to carry out and maintain a log of specified practical activities).

Career possibilities

Chemistry is a highly respected subject for university entry. It allows students to move on to higher education to study on a wide range of different courses. Apart from degree courses in chemistry itself, the subject is essential for courses like medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary science and biochemistry. It is extremely useful for other courses like physiotherapy, physics and biology. The pharmaceutical industry, in particular, invests heavily in research and development and is a major employer of chemistry graduates.

Course Leader: Ms J Scully

A Level – Computer Science

Exam Board: OCR

Why should I study it?

A Level Computer Science develops an understanding of computer architecture and organisation in terms of software, data, hardware and communications. Students develop the skills necessary to apply their understanding to the development of computer-based programming solutions focusing on computational and algorithmic skills. Students will gain a good introduction to programming methodologies and the creative process of coding. Programming skills are in demand and are being encouraged by recent Government initiatives. A Level Computer Science will also appeal to those students who are interested in the science behind how computers are structured rather than the applications emphasis of traditional ICT courses.

Course Content and Assessment

Computing Principles	The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices	Written Paper – 2hr 30mins 40% of A-Level
	Software and software development Exchanging data Data types, data structures and algorithms Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues. Elements of computational thinking	
Algorithm and Programming	Programming and problem solving Pattern recognition, abstraction and decomposition Algorithm design and efficiency Standard algorithms	Written Paper – 2hr 30mins 40% of A-Level
Computing Project	Programming project in a high level language	Project – internally assessed & externally moderated 20% of A-Level

Career possibilities

An A Level in Computer Science will provide a direct path into careers in programming and IT. However, the logical and analytical skills developed are transferrable to a range of careers such as finance, business and engineering.

Course Leader: Mr K Lange

A Level – Economics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

Economics is the study of people and why they make the choices they make. We view this from both a local and global perspective. We collect information and data to help us understand and make predictions about people's behaviour in markets. You will study a wide range of topics. Some of these will look at local economics and others will think about economics and its implications on a global scale. Now is one of the best times to study Economics. It has always been a subject that doesn't stop but now, it is a subject that doesn't leave the news. You have constant exposure to the world of Economics and studying this course will make you aware of that. You will be thinking like an economist and you will find it difficult to think in another way.

Course Content and Assessment

Year 12 Units

- Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure
- Theme 2: The UK economy – performance and policies

Year 13 Units

- Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market
- Theme 4: A global perspective

Paper 1	Markets and business behaviour	Assesses microeconomics and questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 2	35% of qualification
Paper 2	The national and global economy	Assesses macroeconomics and questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 4	35% of qualification
Paper 3	Microeconomics and macroeconomics	Assesses content across all four themes	30% of qualification

At the end of Year 12, students will complete two exams, set by the department, to check on progress and for the purposes of judging predicted grades. The marks from these exams do not count towards the overall A Level qualification.

Career possibilities

Career possibilities in Economics are endless. Although economics is not the study of financial markets or banking, it is not unusual for people to progress into that sector. Other people will move into areas of policy making, whether it be in a civil service or government position or in business organisations.

Course Leader: Mr Y Bhatti

A Level – English Literature

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

Those who study English Literature at A Level gain a critical appreciation of both our literary heritage and contemporary works. Studying English will develop your skills in putting forward clear arguments, both in written and oral form.

Course Content and Assessment

Component 1: Drama (30% of total qualification)

Students study one Shakespeare play and one other drama from either tragedy or comedy – both texts may be selected from one or both of these categories.

Critical essays related to their selected Shakespeare play. Students' preparation is supported by Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy or Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Comedy.

Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Open book – clean copies of the drama texts can be taken into the examination.

The Critical Anthology must not be taken into the examination.

Component 2: Prose (20% of total qualification)

Students study two prose texts from a chosen theme.

At least one of the prose texts must be pre-1900.

Written examination, lasting 1 hour.

Open book – clean copies of the prose texts can be taken into the examination.

Component 3: Poetry (30% of total qualification)

Students study a selection of post-2000 specified poetry and a specified range of poetry from: either a literary period (either pre- or post-1900) or a named poet from within a literary period.

Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Open book – clean copies of the poetry texts can be taken into the examination.

Component 4: Coursework (20% of total qualification)

Students have a free choice of two texts to study. Students produce one comparative essay referring to two texts.

Advisory total word count is 2500–3000 words.

Career possibilities

English Literature is a subject that can lead into many different careers, including public relations, journalism, advertising, acting, teaching, publishing, PR, theatre in education, politics and film.

Course Leader: Ms A Daszynska

A Level – Drama & Theatre Studies

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside theoretical understanding and in-depth exploration of literature. Students learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves. Students are introduced to a wide range of theoretical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically and write/direct their own pieces. The course inspires students to become independent theatre makers encourages development and refinement of analytical/evaluative thinking, collaborative skills and their approach to research. They will have the opportunity to work as individuals and as part of an ensemble. In addition to acting, students can also develop theatre design skills such as costume, sound, lighting and set design.

Course Content and Assessment

Component 1 – Drama and theatre What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre• Study of two set plays• Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers	How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 3 hours• Open book• 80 marks• 40% of A-level
Component 2 – Creating original drama (practical) What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process of creating devised drama• Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)• Devised piece influenced by the work of one prescribed practitioner	How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working notebook (40 marks)• Devised performance (20 marks)• 60 marks in total• 30% of A-level
Component 3 – Making theatre (practical) What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts each taken from a different play• Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3• Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts	How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance of Extract 3 (40 marks)• Reflective report (20 marks)• 60 marks in total• 30% of A-level

Career possibilities

The study of Drama & Theatre studies provides a solid foundation for careers in acting, creative performing arts, arts administration, media, teaching, journalism, presenting, law, public relations, drama therapy and speech pathology.

Course Leader: Ms S Joseph

A Level – Film Studies

Exam Board: Eduqas

Why should I study it?

The course blends the study of a range of film theories with practical application of the micro elements – mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing and sound – and the macro elements – genre and narrative. At the heart of Film Studies lies the exploration of the relationship between the spectator, the filmmaker and the film text.

Those who study Film Studies at A Level gain a critical appreciation of both film theory and practical filmmaking. Studying film will develop your skills in planning, research, close analysis, evaluation of different social and cultural contexts, and film production.

Course Content and Assessment

Three components: 2 written examinations (70%) and production coursework (30%)

Component 1: Varieties of films and filmmaking (6 feature-length films)	Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives: (5 feature-length films)	Component 3: Production
In this unit students study: A) Two Hollywood films produced between (1930-1990 and 1930 -1960) B) Two contemporary American films (one mainstream and one independent) produced after 2005 C) Two British films post 2005	Unit 2 assesses students' knowledge of: A) Global film (one European and one non-European film) B) Documentary (one film) C) Silent cinema (one silent film or a group of films) D) Film movements – Experimental film (one film from 1960-2000)	Production task - for example planning and producing a short film (4-5 minutes) plus an evaluative analysis (1600-1800 words)
Written exam: Three analytical essays (2 hours and 30 minutes) 35%	Written exam: Four analytical essays (2 hours and 30 minutes) 35%	Non-exam assessment: Coursework 30%

Career possibilities

Film Studies is a subject that can lead into many different careers, including media, journalism, advertising, acting, teaching, publishing and PR.

Course Leader: Ms A Dryden

A Level – French

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

French is a challenging and exciting course which will enable pupils to develop their level of fluency by using the language learned in a range of contexts, gain an insight into French culture and discuss and reflect on aspects of contemporary society.

It is a life changing course that will give you a competitive edge in future studies and in the global market.

Course Content and Assessment

- **Social issues and trends**, including family, relationships, popular culture, the digital world, immigration, integration and racism
- **Political and artistic culture**, including traditions, festivals, art, politics, the EU and contemporary youth issues.
- **Grammar**
- **Literary texts and films**, study two books **or** one book and one film from a set list
- **Individual research project**, students identify a subject or a key question relating to the French speaking world which is of interest to them. They engage in research and then present and discuss their chosen topic in the speaking assessment.

Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Writing including translation	2 hours 30 mins	50% of A Level
Paper 2	Writing – essay questions relate to the book and film studied	2 hours	20% of A level
Paper 3	Speaking – General conversation related to 2 of the topic areas studied and a research-based topic presentation and discussion	25 mins	30% of A Level

Career possibilities

Language learning opens many doors and can be combined with many subjects (History, English, Law and Business). It increases students' employability in a competitive market. Languages give excellent access to careers in international organisations, the civil service, journalism and the media as well as specialist careers such as interpreting, teaching and translating.

Course Leader: Ms S Kahan

A Level – Geography

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

The course incorporates human, physical and practical skills modules as well as examining a range of contemporary geographical issues including global governance, water and carbon systems, hazards and urban issues. Students also develop their investigative, ICT, graphical, cartographical and statistical skills and will be able to improve their research skills and complete fieldwork activities.

This is the course for you if you are:

- Interested in the changing world around you and have a desire to develop your own values towards contemporary issues and challenges affecting the world today
- A person with an enquiring mind who enjoys a challenge
- Someone seeking an opportunity to develop a wide range of transferable skills

Course Content and Assessment

Year 12

- Physical Geography - Water and Carbon Cycle
- Physical Geography - Hot deserts
- Human Geography - Changing Places, Contemporary Urban Environments
- Geography fieldwork and geographical skills
- Students must attend a 4 day residential to meet the fieldwork requirements of the AS and A level course

Year 13

- Human Geography - Global systems and global governance
- People and the Environment - Hazards
- Independent investigation based on fieldwork

Physical Geography	Multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response and extended prose	2 ½ hour written examination	40% of A Level
Human Geography	Multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response and extended prose	1 ½ hour written examination	40% of A Level
Field Investigation Report	3000 – 4000 word report		20% of A Level

Career possibilities

Geography equips participants for an array of careers, ranging from consultancy and engineering to law, business, finance, marketing and media. Geography graduates are, statistically, the most employable people entering the workplace.

Course Leader: Ms V Trueman

A Level – German

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

The German A Level course combines further language study with cultural insight, looking at the multicultural nature of German-speaking society. Students will explore the influence of the past on present-day German-speaking communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of German-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice. A working knowledge of a foreign language is increasingly important in the global career market. Demonstrating skills to A Level standard shows employers that you have a high level of fluency and can use the language in a range of situations.

Course Content and Assessment

- **Social issues and trends**, including family and relationships, the digital world, youth culture, immigration, integration and racism
- **Political and artistic culture**, including festivals, traditions, art and architecture, as well as politics and youth, Germany and the EU and the politics of the reunification of Germany
- **Grammar**
- **Literary texts and films**, students either study two books or one book and one film from a set list, which includes such authors as Franz Kafka, Max Frisch, Bertolt Brecht and Friedrich Dürrenmatt. Films include: The Lives of Others, Sophie Scholl, Good bye, Lenin!
- **Individual research project**, students identify a subject or a key question which is of interest to them and which relates to a country or countries where German is spoken. They select relevant information in German from a range of sources including the internet. The aim of the research project is to develop research skills. They then present and discuss their findings in the speaking assessment.

Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Writing, including Translation	50% of A Level
Paper 2	Writing – essay questions related to the 2 of the books and films studied	20% of A Level
Paper 3	Speaking – General conversation related to 2 of the topic areas studied and a research-based topic presentation and discussion	30% of A Level

Career possibilities

Language learning opens many doors and can be combined with many subjects (History, English, Law and Business). It increases students' employability in a competitive market. Languages give excellent access to careers in international organisations, the civil service, journalism and the media as well as specialist careers such as interpreting, teaching and translating.

Course Leader: Ms J Reed

A Level – History

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

History is an exciting course in which students will gain a broad overview and assess the historical significance of events, ideas, attitudes and beliefs and how these influenced behaviours and action. Students study a period of British history to develop an in-depth understanding of attitudes, beliefs and structures of society. This is the ideal course for you if:

- You have an interest in the world around you, society and how it has developed
- You like learning about people, how they interact, and what motivates them
- You like learning about different countries, societies and cultures
- You enjoy discussion and debate and you like to develop your own views
- You enjoy research and analysing material to check for bias and propaganda.

Course Content and Assessment

Year 12: Russia 1917-91: from Lenin to Yeltsin (<i>breadth study with interpretations</i>)	3 questions: Sections A and B will be essays to assess understanding of the period in breadth. Section C will assess the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.	2 hours and 15 mins	30% of A level
Year 12: Mao's China, 1949-76 (<i>Depth study</i>)	Section A assesses source analysis and evaluation skills. Section B is an essay that assesses understanding of the period in depth.	1 hour 30 mins	20% of A level
Year 13: The British Experience of warfare, c1780-1918 (<i>Themes in breadth with aspects in depth</i>)	Section A assesses source analysis and evaluation skills. Section B is an essay that assesses understanding of the period in depth and Section C assess understanding of the period in breadth.	2 hours and 15 mins	30% of A level
Year 13: Coursework: Analysing and evaluating Historians interpretations of the past	Single assignment on a question set by the school which assesses the ability to carry out an historical enquiry, analysing and evaluating historical interpretations. Between 3,000 and 4,000 words.		20% of A level

Career possibilities

History is extremely valuable in many careers including: architecture, business, civil service, journalism, law, media, medicine, law enforcement, politics, teaching, research, tourism, marketing, product development and economics.

Course Leader: Mr S Rivers

A Level – Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

If you are planning to study Maths or a Science related subject at university or if you would like continue to develop your mathematical skills beyond GCSE and A Level.

In recent years, higher education institutions and employers have consistently flagged the need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond with confidence to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work. A qualification in Maths and/or Further Maths will enable you to develop these cognitive, inter and intrapersonal skills.

Course Content and Assessment

Students will study a combination of the topics below dependent upon their curriculum pathway

Pure Mathematics 1	Pure Mathematics 2	Statistics & Mechanics
Topic 1 – Proof Topic 2 – Algebra and functions Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane Topic 4 – Sequences and series Topic 5 – Trigonometry Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms Topic 7 – Differentiation Topic 8 – Integration Topic 9 – Vectors	Topic 1 – Proof Topic 2 – Algebra and functions Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane Topic 4 – Sequences and series Topic 5 – Trigonometry Topic 6 – Differentiation Topic 7 – Integration Topic 8 – Numerical methods	Section A: Statistics Topic 1 – Statistical sampling Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretation Topic 3 – Probability Topic 4 – Statistical distributions Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing Section B: Mechanics Topic 6 – Quantities and units in mechanics Topic 7 – Kinematics Topic 8 – Forces and Newton’s laws Topic 9 – Moments
1 written paper – 2 hours	1 written paper – 2 hours	1 written paper – 2 hours

Career possibilities

An A Level in Maths will open doors to a whole range of university courses and careers. These include careers in science, medicine, engineering, architecture, law, finance, accountancy and civil service.

Course Leaders: Ms N Worthey & Mr R Dhanaratne

A Level – Mathematics (Further)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

If you are planning to study Maths or a Science related subject at university or if you would like continue to develop your mathematical skills beyond GCSE and A Level.

In recent years, higher education institutions and employers have consistently flagged the need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond with confidence to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work. A qualification in Maths and/or Further Maths will enable you to develop these cognitive, inter and intrapersonal skills.

Course Content and Assessment

Core Pure Mathematics 1	Core Pure Mathematics 2	Further Mechanics 1	Decision Mathematics 1
<p>Chapter 1 – Complex Numbers</p> <p>Chapter 2 – Argand Diagram</p> <p>Chapter 3 – Series</p> <p>Chapter 4 – Roots of polynomials</p> <p>Chapter 5 – Volumes of revolution</p> <p>Chapter 6 – Matrices</p> <p>Chapter 7 – Linear Transformations</p> <p>Chapter 8 – Proof by induction</p> <p>Chapter 9 – Vectors</p>	<p>Chapter 1 – Complex numbers</p> <p>Chapter 2 – Series</p> <p>Chapter 3 – Methods in calculus</p> <p>Chapter 4 – Volumes of revolutions</p> <p>Chapter 5 – Polar coordinator</p> <p>Chapter 6 – Hyperbolic functions</p> <p>Chapter 7 – Methods in differential equations.</p> <p>Chapter 8 – Modelling with differential equations.</p>	<p>Chapter 1 – Momentum and impulse</p> <p>Chapter 2 – Work, energy and power</p> <p>Chapter 3 – Elastic strings and springs</p> <p>Chapter 4 – Elastic collisions in one dimension</p> <p>Chapter 5 – Elastic collisions in two dimensions.</p>	<p>Chapter 1 – Algorithms</p> <p>Chapter 2 – Graphs and networks</p> <p>Chapter 3 – Algorithms on graphs</p> <p>Chapter 4 – Route Inspection</p> <p>Chapter 5 – The travelling salesman problem (Year 13)</p> <p>Chapter 6 – Linear programming</p> <p>Chapter 7 – The simplex algorithm (Year 13)</p> <p>Chapter 8 – Critical path analysis</p>
1 written paper – 1 hour 30 minutes	1 written paper – 1 hour 30 minutes	1 written paper – 1 hour 30 minutes	1 written paper – 1 hour 30 minutes

Career possibilities

A-levels in Maths and Further Maths will open doors to a whole range of university courses and careers. These include careers in science, medicine, engineering, design, architecture, law, finance, accountancy and civil service.

Course Leaders: Ms N Worthey & Mr R Dhanaratne

A Level – Physical Education

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

A Level Physical Education is a multi-disciplinary course that not only provides an opportunity for students to improve their basic understanding of sports physiology, psychology and social principles of sport, but also enables students to apply their skills practically in one sport.

Those interested in the course should be passionate about not only participating in sport, but also have keen thirst to learn about physiology and how sport has influenced society historically and in contemporary society.

Course Content and Assessment

Components	Content	Assessment
Component 1: Scientific Principles of PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applied anatomy and physiology• Exercise physiology• Applied movement analysis	2 hours and 30 minutes 140 marks (40%)
Component 2: Psychological and Social Principles of PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skills acquisition• Sports psychology• Sport and society	2 hours 100 marks (30%)
Component 3: Practical Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skills performed as a player/performer or coach	40 marks (15%)
Component 4: Performance Analysis and Personal Development Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance analysis• Personal Development Programme (PDP)	40 marks (15%)

Career possibilities

PE A Level supports several courses such as sports science, medicine, physiotherapy, history, psychology and sociology. The course will prepare students academically when looking to secure an area of their interest and seeking employment in future.

Course Leader: Ms L Patterson

A Level – Physics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

Students grow an appreciation of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. Students develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of *How Science Works*. They also build essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of physics and how they relate to each other.

Course Content and Assessment

Paper 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working as a Physicist• Mechanics• Electric circuits• Further mechanics• Electric and magnetic fields• Nuclear and particle physics	1 hour 45 mins	30% of A Level
Paper 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working as a Physicist• Materials• Waves and the particle nature of light• Thermodynamics• Space• Nuclear radiation• Gravitational fields• Oscillations	1 hour 45 mins	30% of A Level
Paper 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All topics from A level specification• Half of paper will test knowledge of practical skills and techniques	2 hours 30 mins	40% of A Level

Assessment of practical skills and the practical endorsement in physics

Development of practical skills in physics will be assessed through written examinations and through practical endorsement (where learners are required to carry out and maintain a log of specified practical activities)

Career possibilities

Physics develops many skills valued by employers such as analytical thinking, problem solving, the ability to convey complex ideas and use technical language, confidence with calculations and numeracy, and the expertise to construct logical arguments. Physics prepares students for careers in: academic institutions, government research organisations and industries such as aerospace and defence, education, energy, engineering, instrumentation, manufacturing, oil and gas, science, communication, space exploration and telecommunications.

Course Leader: Mr A Rae

A Level – Politics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why should I study it?

This course provides an understanding of the political system of the UK, USA and the European Union. In Year 12, students will study the processes and theories which underpin the operation of the UK's democratic system. In Year 13, students will have the opportunity to broaden their contemporary political knowledge through examination of the American system and the international response to global political issues. Those who study Government and Politics gain knowledge and understanding of how the world works – building an interest in world and current affairs and form a justified opinion on real world issues.

Course Content and Assessment

UK Politics

Students will study: Democracy and Participation, Political Parties, Electoral Systems, Voting Behaviour and the core political ideologies of Conservatism, Liberalism, and Socialism.

UK Governance

Students will study: The Constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and Executive, the UK Judiciary and the optional political ideas of Anarchism, Ecologism, Feminism, Multiculturalism and Nationalism.

Comparative Politics (USA)

For USA (3A), students will study: The US Constitution and Federalism, US Congress, the US Presidency, the US Supreme Court, democracy and participation and the current statues of the Civil Rights movement **OR** for Global Issues (3B) students will study: Theories of Global Politics, Sovereignty and Globalisation, Global Governance: political and economic issues and solutions, Human Rights, Environmental policy and regional power blocks.

UK Politics	Two essay questions from a choice on content studied (written exam)	2 hours	33% of A Level
UK Government	Two essay style questions from a choice on content studied (written exam)	2 hours	33% of A Level
USA Politics	Students will sit a written exam with two short essay questions and one long essay question	2 hours	33% of A Level

Career possibilities

The study of Government and Politics provides students with a robust understanding of contemporary global issues whilst encouraging them to formulate their own viewpoint from competing perspectives. This can lead to a career in many areas including the Civil Service, Law, Journalism, Management Consultancy, Teaching, Public Relations, Research and an active career in politics.

Course Leader: Mr C Brown

A Level – Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

The course covers a range of topics and themes including the social psychology, cognitive psychology, individual differences, child development, different approaches to psychology and research methods as well as applied options and debates in psychology, case study on autism, phobias and anxiety disorders, nature versus nurture debate and feral children.

This is a fascinating course and deals with issues that affect us all. It is extremely useful for later employment and acts as a very effective crossover between science and humanities. Psychology will allow you to develop scientific skills related to data collection and conducting experiments, whilst still demanding the literacy skills and extended writing found in subjects such as History.

Course Content and Assessment

- Memory
- Attachment
- Social Influence
- Psychopathology
- Approaches in Psychology
- Research Methods
- Biopsychology
- Eating Behaviour
- Relationships
- Forensic Psychology

Paper 1: Memory, Attachment, Social Influence, Psychopathology	Short questions and essay	2 hours	33.3% of A Level
Paper 2: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods	Short questions and essay	2 hours	33.3% of A Level
Paper 3: Options Paper	Short questions and essay	2 hours	33.3% of A Level

Career possibilities

Criminal psychologist, health psychologist, educational psychologist are obvious pathways. However, you can use psychology in virtually any careers (e.g. law, sports, medicine, journalism, business etc.) and it can act as a compliment to all other subjects.

Course Leader: Ms S Webster

A Level – RS (Philosophy of Religion & Ethics)

Exam Board: OCR

Why should I study it?

Philosophy of Religion, Ethics & Theology is an exciting course which combines important ethical debates around topics like abortion, business ethics, sexual ethics and euthanasia with philosophical ideas such as the problem of evil and critiques of religious belief. Philosophy of religion and ethics supports and compliments many different subjects. It develops skills in many other written subjects such as English, history and psychology. It also compliments scientific courses by providing an ethical framework for scientific research and a basis in medical ethics for future doctors, vets and dentists.

Course Content and Assessment

<i>Paper</i>	<i>Topics:- Learners will study</i>	<i>Assessed</i>
1: Philosophy of Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ancient philosophical influences• The nature of the soul, mind and body• Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God• The nature and impact of religious experience• The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil• Ideas about the nature of God• Issues in religious language.	Exam (2 hours) 33.3% of A Level
2: Ethics of Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Normative ethical theories• The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance• Ethical language and thought• Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience• Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.	Exam (2 hours) 33.3% of A Level
3: Christian Theology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world• Sources of religious wisdom and authority• Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition• Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought	Exam (2 hours) 33.3% of A Level

Career possibilities

Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Theology develops many skills valued by employers such as clarity and precision in thinking, the expertise to present a strong case, and to see the ethical issues involved in everyday decisions. Most importantly this course prepares and teaches skills of critical thinking and analysis which are the key to success in undergraduate study. It is for this reason, as well as the above, that top universities highly recommend this course, preparing students for a career in law, civil service, medicine, journalism and teaching.

Course Leader: Mr B Stockton

A Level – Sociology

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

Sociology is an appropriate course for anyone who takes a keen interest in social, political and current affairs. It is an invaluable qualification for people who want to become an expert in a sociological field e.g. Social Research, Social Policy, Social Work. Universities alongside career in fields such as Government and Politics, International Relations, Criminology, Policing, Civil Service, Social Services and public services expect students to have updated knowledge and understanding of events that shape the world which the Sociology course provides.

Course Content and Assessment

Year 12 teaching units

- Education
- Families and Households
- Research Methods
- Sociological Theory

Year 13 teaching units

- Mass media
- Crime and Deviance
- *Revision*

Three external assessments

Paper 1 (33.3% of total) — Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2 (33.3% of total) — Topics in Sociology (The Family and Beliefs in Society)

Paper 3 (33.3% of total) — Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Career possibilities

Sociologists work in a wide range of careers and such diverse fields as social work, policing, education, health and welfare, personnel management, public relations, marketing, advertising, political research, the media industry, teaching and journalism. More and more employers see sociology as a highly desirable as the subject develops communication and interpersonal and analytical skills as well as tolerance and cross-cultural understanding.

Course Leader: Ms S Webster

A Level – Spanish

Exam Board: AQA

Why should I study it?

Students will study technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society. They will study highlights of Hispanic artistic culture, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. They will learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world. Students will explore the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities. Throughout their studies, they learn the language in the context of Hispanic countries and issues and influences which have shaped them.

Course Content and Assessment

- ✓ Immigration (La inmigración)
- ✓ Racism (El racismo)
- ✓ Integration (La convivencia)
- ✓ Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos de mañana (Young people today, citizens tomorrow)
- ✓ Monarquías y dictaduras (monarchies and dictatorships)
- ✓ Los movimientos populares (The working class movement)
- ✓ Individual Research Project
- ✓ Literary study – La casa de Bernarda Alba

Paper	Weighting	Assessment
1	50% of A-level 2h 30 min	Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources covering different registers and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail. All questions are in Spanish, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in Spanish Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content. All questions are in Spanish, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in Spanish. Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words. Translation into Spanish; a passage of minimum 100 words.
2	20% of A-level 2 hours	Either one question in Spanish on a set text and one question in Spanish on a set film OR two questions in Spanish on set texts from a choice of two questions on each text. Students are advised to write approximately 300 words per essay.
3	30% of A-level	Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (6 mins). Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of individual research project.

Career possibilities

Language learning opens many doors and can be combined with many subjects (History, English, Law and business). It increases students' employability in a competitive market. Languages give excellent access to careers in international organisations, the civil service, journalism and the media as well as specialist careers such as interpreting, teaching and translating.

Course Leader: Mr A Reyes